

No. R-262. Senate concurrent resolution in memory of Huntington H. Blair of Montpelier.

(S.C.R.31)

By Senators Kitchel, Ayer, Collamore, Lyons, McCormack, and Pollina,

Whereas, innovative leadership in the evolving world of health care policy and technology were the hallmarks of Hunt Blair's impressive career, and

Whereas, Hunt Blair graduated from Brown University, and

Whereas, his initial health care role was as the Vermont Director of Public Policy at Bi-State Primary Care, where he oversaw a major increase in the number of both grantees and the number of federally qualified health care centers they operate in Vermont, and

Whereas, while at Bi-State, Hunt Blair established Vermont's Rural Health Alliance, with a mission to enable rural health centers, clinics, and small hospitals to work collaboratively to put the State's ambitious health care reform agenda into practice, and

Whereas, in 2009, Hunt Blair brought his creative genius to the Vermont Department of Health Access as Deputy Commissioner of Health Reform and as State Coordinator for Health Information Technology (HIT) Services, and

Whereas, his many State employment accomplishments included development of Vermont's HIT plans, and

Whereas, Hunt Blair mastered the intricacies and architecture of health care in Vermont and developed colorful diagrams to illustrate its operation, and

Whereas, despite the sensitivity of health care as a public policy issue, he served in a senior leadership post in administrations of different political parties, and

Whereas, the respect Hunt Blair earned among his Vermont colleagues spread nationally and, in 2013, he was appointed a principal advisor to the national coordinator of HIT, and

Whereas, after serving in this federal role, both full-time and as a contract employee, Hunt Blair ventured onto a new independent path to develop what he characterized as a Bretton Woods moment in the development of health care information management nationwide, and

Whereas, this industrious Vermonter who was devoted to his family died in September 2015, a week short of his 55th birthday, and his survivors include his wife, Sarah, sons, George and Adam, and his mother, Gretchen Payne, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere sympathies to the family of Huntington H. Blair, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Huntington Blair's family.